

Peter J. Varga

P R O F E S S I O N A L E X P E R I E N C E

Interurban Transit Partnership –

December 1993 to Present

The Rapid

Grand Rapids, Michigan

CEO. 1997 to Present. Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Interurban Transit Partnership (ITP – *The Rapid*), an urban transit system. *The Rapid* has an operating budget of \$40.16 million, and a capital program that ranges up to 30 million dollars. Director of an executive and management staff of thirteen and a work force of (362) Three Hundred and sixty two. ITP's representative on the Board of Directors of the American Public Transit Association (APTA). Directly responsible under the policy direction of a fifteen member board consisting of the six cities in the Grand Rapids metro region, for all the activities of the transit authority; these include strategic development, long and short range planning, marketing, administrative and financial oversight, as well as the management of safe, reliable and efficient transportation services provided to the community. Director of ITP's mobility management system and its family of services which include fixed route and paratransit services, vanpooling, rideshare, mobility training, travel assessments, City of Grand Rapids DASH services, business transportation consulting and the transportation brokerage of several urban programs for the cities and Kent County such as welfare to work transportation, supportive housing, rural dial-a-ride, and other special services. The Rapid is the winner of the American Public Transportation Association Outstanding Public Transportation System Award in 2004 and the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce Nonprofit of the Year Award in 2005. In 2008, was appointed to the Transportation Funding Taskforce, the thirteen member commission appointed by Governor Jennifer Granholm to "Review the Adequacy of Surface Transportation and Aeronautics Service Provision and Finance in Michigan".

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS. December 1993 to September 1997. Chief Operating Officer of an urban transit system. Director of the Transportation, Maintenance and Paratransit departments with an operating budget of \$8.5 million. Manager of staff and employees of 146 people. Responsible for GRATA's equipment and facilities and replacement plans. Manager of labor relations and chief contract negotiator for the Authority. Deputy to the Executive Director and member of GRATA's executive team.

Muskegon Area Transit System

August 1991 to December 1993

Muskegon, Michigan

TRANSIT SYSTEMS MANAGER. Executive Director of small urban transit system of 21 buses in Muskegon, County, Michigan with an annual operating budget of \$1.6 million. Manager of staff and employees of (32) thirty two people. Directly responsible, under the policy direction of a nine member Muskegon County Board of Commissioners, for all activities of the transit system;

Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District

February 1980 to July 1991

Santa Cruz, California

SAFETY AND TRAINING COORDINATOR. Conducted and directed training programs for 200+ employees; bus operators, supervisors, staff and management. Supervised operators in training and the supervisors in the Safety/Training Department. Administered district safety program. Received award from the Santa Cruz Transportation Commission for Outstanding Contribution in 1987 for the City of Watsonville route redesign. Previously worked as Bus Operator, Transit Supervisor and Operator/Line Instructor.

E D U C A T I O N

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

1972 - 1976

Los Angeles, California

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & POLITICAL SCIENCE; PASSED MASTER'S COMPREHENSIVE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION; NDEA FELLOWSHIP 73-76; FORD FOUNDATION GRANT, 1972; G.P.A. 3.62

New York University

1970 -1972

New York City, N.Y.

M.A. POLITICAL SCIENCE; M.L.KING JR. FELLOWSHIP; G.P.A. 3.75.

New York University

1966 - 1970

Washington Square, N.Y.C., N.Y.

B.A. HISTORY & POLITICAL SCIENCE

O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

Michigan Public Transit Association (MPTA)

1992-2013

Lansing, Michigan

PAST PRESIDENT 2007-2009 & 2002-2004; PRESIDENT 2004-2006 & 1999-2002; VICE PRESIDENT (1996-1998); BOARD MEMBER (1991-2001); CHAIR OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE. (2010,2011,2012 & 2012)

American Public Transportation Association (APTA)

2001-2013

Washington D.C.

VICE CHAIR, 2012-2013; EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER 1010 & 2011; BOARD MEMBER 2006-2012 & 2001-2005; AWARDS COMMITTEE MEMBER 2005-2008; CHAIR, & MEMBER SMALL OPERATIONS STEERING COMMITTEE 2003-2009, CHAIR AUDIT COMMITTEE 2011-12. CHAIR DIVERSITY COUNCIL 2011-2013

Work Force Development Board

1997-2013

Grand Rapids, Michigan

BOARD MEMBER 1999-2011

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

2000-2010

Grand Rapids, Michigan

CHAIRPERSON 2008 & 2009; SENIOR VICE CHAIRPERSON 2006 -2007; BOARD MEMBER 2000-2005; 2006; VICE CHAIR OF FINANCE & OPERATIONS 2005-06

Grand Valley Metro Council

2000-2013

Grand Rapids, Michigan

POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBER 2000-2009; COMMITTEE CHAIR 2008, 2009,2012 & 2013

YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids

2006-2013

Grand Rapids, Michigan

BOARD MEMBER 2006-2013